

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 AGR-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /085 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OF/FPD:CGBILLO:JV

APPROVED BY EB/ORF/OFJ:JAPLACKE

AID:PBIRNBAUM

TREASURY:MRYSS

NEA/ARP:FDICKMAN (SUBS)

EB/ODF/IFD:FTHOMAS

E:RPOATS

S/S-O: P. JOHNSON

----- 075914

R 170212Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SA

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
(IFAD)

REF:(A) JIDDA 3184; (B) GENEVA 3285

1. DEPARTMENT REGRETS FAILURE TO REPLY TO JIDDA'S 2765.
DURING MAY 5-6 CONSULTATION IN GENEVA USEFUL CONVERSATION
TOOK PLACE BETWEEN HEAD OF U.S. DEL (AID ASSISTANT
ADMINISTRATOR BIRNBAUM) AND SAUDI DELEGATE HASSAN
AL-MISHARI. REF (B) REPORTS ATTITUDE OF SAUDIS AT
GENEVA CONSULTATION, INCLUDING WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE
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FINANCIALLY IN A NEW INSTITUTION DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURAL

DEVELOPMENT WITH AN ANNUAL LENDING POWER EQUIVALENT TO ONE BILLION SDRS. ACTUAL AMOUNT OF EVENTUAL COMMITMENT WAS NOT REVEALED, HOWEVER, NOR WAS IT MADE CLEAR THAT INTENDED SAUDI "PARTICIPATION" WOULD BE IN FORM OF DIRECT CONTRIBUTION. (UN WORKING PAPER ON IFAD SUBMITTED PRIOR TO GENEVA CONSULTATION CALLED FOR DIRECT CONTRIBUTION ON IDA TERMS.)

2. AT LUNCH HOSTED BY AUSTRALIA MAY 5, BIRNBAUM TOLD MISHARI THAT U.S. WELCOMED SAG'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO MAKE A COMMITMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE FUND. WE SHARED THE VIEW EXPRESSED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS TO THE CONSULTATION, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROPOSED IFAD SHOULD NOT UNDERCUT COMMITMENTS AND PLANS BY DONORS TO INCREASE EXISTING BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL FUNDING FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. MISHARI REPLIED THAT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DESERVED THE HIGHEST PRIORITY AND THAT A NEW FUND EMPHASIZING AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE EXISTING MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS DID NOT STRESS AGRICULTURE.

3. BIRNBAUM SAID THAT ALMOST ALL DELEGATES AGREED THAT THERE WAS NEED FOR SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. THEREFORE WE HOPED THAT THOSE DONOR COUNTRIES WHO SUPPORTED THE NEW FUND WOULD GO FORWARD WITH THEIR COMMITMENTS ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS WITHOUT INSISTING ON MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE TRADITIONAL DONORS WHO WERE ALREADY PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE.

4. MISHARI WAS ASKED IF SAUDI ARABIA WAS PREPARED TO COMMIT ITS FUNDS WITHOUT MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS. HE DID NOT RESPOND DIRECTLY AND SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT EXPECTED OTHER DONORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUND. (FULL TEXT OF BIRNBAUM-MISHARI CONVERSATION WILL BE AIR-POUCHED).

5. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USEFUL TO CONSULT WITH SAUDIS IN KEEPING WITH EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION REF (A). IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO HAVE THEIR VIEWS ON INTENDED LEVELS OF COMMITMENTS OF NEW DONORS AS WELL AS THEIR THOUGHTS ON STRUCTURE OF PROPOSED IFAD. IN THIS REGARD, UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON IS AVAILABLE TO CONSULT WITH SAG ON IFAD DURING HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO JIDDA. EMBASSY, THEREFORE, SHOULD SEEK APPOINTMENTS WITH MINAG MISHARI, AND OTHER

APPROPRIATE SAG OFFICIALS. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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